



# NEWS RELEASE

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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## Pinal County Juvenile Court Services Receives Judicial Award



PHOENIX, At the 2001 Arizona Supreme Court Awards program, the Pinal County Juvenile Court Services' Restorative Justice Committees (from left: Barry Pirtle, Laura Mims, Chief Justice Thomas Zlaket and George Gorodensky, JPO) were recognized for their efforts in Protecting Children, Families and Communities. This award is given for contributions in helping courts protect Arizona's children, families and communities by

providing them with an independent, neutral forum for resolving disputes; dispensing justice in a fair and equitable manner; improving how children and families are served in issues of family law; ensuring that juvenile detention facilities are available, safe and secure; and, by delivering probation services, providing public protection and offender accountability.

In presenting the award, Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas Zlaket noted that the Restorative Justice Committees, made up of a cross-section of people from violence prone communities, provides a structured forum to address and resolve issues caused by crime. Based on the concept of neighbors helping neighbors, their goal is to hold the offender accountable for his or her actions while providing sentencing recommendations to the Juvenile Court.

For more information, contact Richard Travis, public information officer, (602) 542-9656.

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